

10 PETITION - PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

FILE REFERENCE INT2033697

RESPONSIBLE GENERAL MANAGER Tom McQualter

AUTHOR Doug Evans

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the petition;
2. Thank the petitioners for their interest in this matter and advise that Council is not investing directly in companies that produce nuclear weapons; and
3. Forward the petition to local members of Federal Parliament asking for their support for the petition.

Attachments

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Cr Schilling tabled a petition at the March Council meeting signed by approximately 108 residents on behalf of ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) asking for Cardinia Shire to:

- Endorse the ICAN Cities Appeal urging the Australian Government to sign and ratify the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons,
- Communicate its endorsement to the Prime Minister and various other Government Ministers, leader of the Opposition and shadow ministers and leaders of all political parties, and
- Take steps to ensure that council funds are not invested in companies that produce nuclear weapons.

This report responds to the petition.

BACKGROUND

ICAN has been very active in its endeavours and the ICAN Cities Appeal has been launched to encourage municipalities to support the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. 180 local residents have joined together to petition the Council to support the Treaty.

Eight Councils in Victoria have so far joined the ICAN Cities Appeal in support of the UN Treaty.

In response to the petition lodged by local residents it is suggested that Council acknowledge the petition, thank the petitioners for their interest in this matter and refer the petition to local members of the Federal Parliament asking for their support of the petition. It is also proposed that the petitioners be advised that Council funds are not invested in companies that produce nuclear weapons.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council does not have a policy position on the issues of nuclear weapons.

RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN

Nil.

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

No community consultation has been undertaken by the Council in regard to the petition.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

It is suggested that the concerns of the local residents be acknowledged and the petition be referred to local members of Federal Parliament for their consideration and asking for their support of the concerns of our residents.

**ICAN
CITIES
APPEAL**



**NOBEL
PEACE
PRIZE
2017**

To the CEO, Mayor and Councillors of Cardinia Shire

In 2017, 122 nations voted to adopt the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Sadly, Australia is yet to sign and ratify this landmark Treaty. The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons 'Cities Appeal' provides the opportunity for cities and towns across Australia to declare their support for the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and call on our leaders in the federal parliament to sign and ratify it without delay.

The following petitioners request that Cardinia Shire join other Australian cities expressing their support for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons as an urgent humanitarian imperative.

- We request that Council endorse the ICAN Cities Appeal urging the Australian Government to sign and ratify the Treaty.
- We further request that Council communicate its endorsement to the Prime Minister, Foreign and Defence Ministers, the Leader of the Opposition, shadow foreign and defence ministers, and leaders of all political parties represented in the Australian Parliament.
- We finally suggest that council take steps to ensure that council funds are not invested in companies that produce nuclear weapons.

NAME

ADDRESS

POST
CODE

SIGNATURE